Discrete Mathematics and Probability

Session 2025/26, Semester 1

Week 2 Homework 1

Proof

This homework runs from Thursday 18 September 2025 until 12 noon on Thursday 25 September 2025. Submission is to Gradescope Homework 1.

Questions marked with an asterisk * may be a little harder than others. All are still within the course curriculum, though, and can be done using the methods taught in the study guides and textbook.

You should aim to write out solutions that someone who does not already know the answer could follow and understand.

Question 1

(a) Write down the negation of the following statement.

For all integers n, if n is odd then $(n^2 + 4)$ is prime

[2 marks]

(b) Use a counterexample to prove the statement in part (a) is false.

[2 marks]

Question 2

Prove by contraposition that for any irrational number r its cube root $\sqrt[3]{r}$ is also irrational. [4 marks]

* Question 3

Write out a proof that if a and b are integers then not all of a, (a+b), and ab are odd. [2 marks]